

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application : Aime et al. Confirmation No. 9446

Serial No. : 10/552,851

Filed : July 21, 2006

Art Unit : 1618

Examiner : Rider, L.

For : **ADDUCTS BETWEEN MAGNETIC RESONANCE SHIFT REAGENTS AND SUBSTRATES CONTAINING EXCHANGEABLE PROTONS FOR CEST APPLICATIONS**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This Amendment and Response to Final Office Action (“Amendment”) is submitted in connection with a Request for Continued Examination (“RCE”) filed herewith in the above-referenced application. This Amendment addresses the issues raised in the Final Office Action issued August 31, 2010 (“Final Office Action”). The initial deadline for responding to the Final Office Action was October 31, 2010. A Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time is concurrently being filed to extend the response deadline up to and including February 28, 2011. Thus, the RCE and this Amendment are being timely filed.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.